

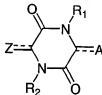
Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A compound having the formula:



wherein

each of ~~-----~~ and ~~-----~~, independently, is a single bond or a double bond;

A is H or CH(R<sup>a</sup>R<sup>b</sup>) when ~~-----~~ is a single bond, or C(R<sup>a</sup>R<sup>b</sup>) when and ~~-----~~ is a double bond;

Z is R<sub>3</sub>O-(Ar)- C(R<sup>c</sup>) when and ~~-----~~ is a double bond; in which Ar is pyridyl linked to C at position 2; and R<sub>3</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl substituted with aryl, C(O)R<sup>f</sup>, or S(O)R<sup>f</sup>;

each of R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, independently, is H or C(O)R<sup>g</sup>;

R<sup>a</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> heterocycloalkyl; R<sup>b</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or aryl; or R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> taken together are C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> heterocycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sup>a</sup> or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sup>b</sup> taken together are C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> heterocycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

R<sup>c</sup> is benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl; and R<sup>c</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or aryl; or R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> taken together are C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> heterocycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sup>a</sup> or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sup>b</sup> taken together are C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> heterocycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

each of R<sup>e</sup> and R<sup>f</sup>, independently, is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl, or arylamino; and

R<sup>g</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or aryl.

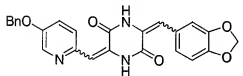
15-17. (Canceled).

18. (Currently amended) The compound of claim [[16]] 14, wherein R<sup>b'</sup> is H.

19. (Original) The compound of claim 18, wherein R<sub>e</sub> is H.

20. (Original) The compound of claim 19, wherein R<sub>3</sub> is benzyl.

21. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 20, wherein the compound is



22-30. (Cancelled)